Army begins final phase of child care fee changes

By Evan Dyson
U.S. Army Installation Management Command

To coincide with a Defense Department policy to standardize the cost of child care across the services, the Army will institute new fees for child and youth programs beginning Oct. 1.

The change affects users of Child Development Centers, School Age Care, Family Child Care, Middle School and Teen Programs, Youth Sports and Fitness, and Army community-based programs.

This year will mark the final phase of the Army's three-year transition to comply with the DOD Child and Youth Fee Policy.

Depending on location, some families may see an increase in their child care fees, while others will see a reduction. In some cases, families may not see changes.

The new fees are based on total family income, not rank or civilian grade. By 2014, DOD plans to have fully implemented consistent fees for each of the nine total family-income categories. The intent of this policy is to create predictable and consistent child care fees across all of the services.

The U.S. Army Installation Management Command, through its Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, continues its commitment to affordable child care and youth programs by striving to keep fees lower than comparable community programs and by paying a portion of the cost for child and youth programs.

Families affected by the new fees will receive information about their specific changes through Child, Youth and School Services.

The 2012/2013 CYS Services fee charts are available at www.stuttgartmwr.com/Portals/138237/docs/CYS-Annex%20D%20SC%20SY12-13%20Fee%20Chart),pdf.

For more information, contact USAG Stuttgart Parent Central Services at 430-7480/civ. 0711-680-7480.